to augment the efforts of the State Governments. RPF has also been empowered to deal with the minor offencess affecting the train operations such as Alarm chain pulling, roof travel, touting, ticket less travel, unauthorized entry etc. (except Sabotage related offences under Sections 150 to 152) by amending the Railways Act w.e.f. July 2004. This has been done so that the State Police (Government Railway Police) get more man-power and time to handle heinous offences such as Murder, Dacoity, robbery, Rape etc. including Sabotage and Train Wrecking, under the provisions of Indian Penal Code, the Railways Act and other laws.

Safety of local trains in Mumbai

†2703. SHRI VASANT CHAVAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether local trains running in Mumbai are safe;

(b) if not, whether Government are working on any new plan to make them better and safe; and

(c) if so, what are the plans and by when they are likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Doubling of Railway Line in Tamil Nadu

2704. SHRI E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make single railway line into double railway line in Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the names of single railway lines which have been converted into double railway line during the current financial year?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.